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ALEXANDRIA, VA., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1893.

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A PICTURE OF ALEXANDRIA, AND A REVIEW OF HER BUSINESS INTERESTS.

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA.

HER HISTORY, OR, THE PAST, PRESENT
AND FUTURE.

One of the Most Suitable Places in the United States for a Home, and for Manufacturing Purposes.

About two thousand years ago we are told a party set out from some place in Asia for the purpose of following the example of Romulus and Remus by building a city. In their prospecting tour it is said they passed over the present site of Constantinople. After they had begun to build their city their attention was called by some parties to the fact that they had ignored one of the most suitable spots in the world. They saw their mistake when it was too late to remedy it, and several centuries later others, more sagacious, founded the present city, and Byzantium, Stamboul, Constantinople, New Rome, or whatever we may be pleased to call it, took its place among the great cities of the world.

We propose in this imperfect article on Alexandria to show that one of the most suitable places in the country for manufacturing or other purposes has long been neglected and to presage a time when many will find themselves in the mortifying position of the stupid city builders referred to, when Alexandria shall have taken her proper place in the country's history.

That Alexandria is surely to become the chief city in Virginia is conceded now by all disinterested persons. Some towns which a few years ago were booming are now growing up in weeds, while Alexandria is steadily forging ahead and growing daily in importance. Situated at the confluence of the great railroads of the country, with a splendid harbor, the best water transportation in the shape of modern steamers and sailing craft, it would be singular if the city didn't grow.

The city of Alexandria from its nucleus, in 1669, to the present day, has justly been regarded by residents as well as visitors as one of the most centrally situated spots for a city of commercial importance in the United States, and that this is no idle boast we propose to show in the description of the city, its eligible situation, its nearness to large cities and commercial marts, together with the very superior facilities which naturally belong to it.

That the great grandfathers of the present generation entertained the same views is evidenced by the fact that over a century before the site of the city of Washington was laid out the present location of Alexandria had been fixed upon for a city, and later, when the British yoke had been thrown off and our forefathers were casting their eyes around the country for a suitable spot upon which to locate the capital city they showed their wisdom by agreeing that the tract of land extending from the south side of the Potomac near where the Long Bridge is situated southward to Hunting creek (which would necessarily have absorbed what is now Alexandria) was the most favored in every particular for the seat of government of the nation. Had the plan, and it was a good one, been carried out, instead of the Episcopal Theological Seminary and High School which are now on picturesque Shuter's Hill, the capitol of the United States would have adorned that eminence, and it would to-day have been the Acropolis of this great and growing nation. The massive buildings which adorn the capital city would now be glistening in the rising sun in Alexandria's background had it not been for the modesty of that greatest of all Americans, George Washington, who while recognizing the fact that Alexandria was the proper place for the capitol was averse to hero worship and urged the abandonment of the plan upon the ground that the proposed site was too near to his Mount Vernon home, and the placing of the capital city so close to him might be criticised unfavorably. Had the intentions of his contemporaries been carried out, however, a city of colossal proportions extending six mile north and south and doubtless to Fairfax C. H. on the west would have been the picture for the rising generation to behold.

But we had no intention at the outset to draw pictures of what might have been, but what *is*, and can be done in old Alexandria, and to show that the place is yet outlined on the prophetic chart for a large and important city.

Two hundred years ago there was not a house upon the entire area now covered by it, and the aborigines were prowling in the neighborhood. It was then as Captain John Smith beheld it when years before he made his memorable trip in an open boat from Old Point Comfort to the present site of the city of Washington. About that time tobacco grown in the back country was transported to the shores of this locality for shipment, and any high bluff where the water

was deep was utilized into a wharf, and vessels were there loaded for foreign countries.

A crude warehouse was erected on the northeastern point of the triangular tract of land which protruded into the Potomac somewhere in close proximity to what is now the City Gas Works. Similar structures followed in time, and when Alexandria had assumed the proportions of a village she was called Bellehaven, in honor of a prominent tobacco grower of that day.

In 1749 the House of Burgesses authorized the formation of a town here. At that period and for many years after all the tobacco and most of the other products of this section (including the opposite Maryland country for miles down the river) were brought here for shipment.

The city did grow slowly, it is true, but its advance was healthy; there had been nothing spasmodic about it.

The original charter granted jurisdiction over six half-acre lots.

In 1763 George Washington was chosen as one of the trustees. Sixteen years elapsed under this regime, when the General Assembly of Virginia incorporated Alexandria as a town with authority to elect a mayor, aldermen, and councilmen, and to hold a hustings court.

George Washington was a familiar

sailing to every prominent port in the world.

At the close of the four years' conflict the city began to expand and has progressed healthily ever since.

About one-third of Alexandria as it stands to-day has been built during the past quarter of a century.

The city is situated on the main arteries of travel from every point of the compass.

In the past year over one million of dollars were spent in this city and neighborhood by northern capitalists, and that as much more will be spent during the present is presaged by some who are confident the proposed electric road from this city to Washington will be built within a short time. The building of this road is, of course, inevitable. It cannot be delayed much longer, as the demand for rapid transit between the two cities is loud, and those who embark in the enterprise of building the road are sure to be remunerated by a large patronage. This road, when it shall have been built (and charters for it have been granted and work commenced), will push Alexandria ahead amazingly.

Property for sale or rent will be advertised free of charge when placed with WHEAT & SUTER, 1505 Pa. Ave. N.W.

THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

BRIEF SKETCHES AND PORTRAITS OF THE
CITY FATHERS.

Portraits by Pen and Photo of the Guiding Stars of the City—Written by the Manager for the Readers of the Issue.

CITY GOVERNMENT.

The city government at present is as follows:

Hon. Henry Strauss, Mayor; E. F. Price, Auditor; John D. H. Lunt, Treasurer; Samuel G. Brent, Corporation Attorney.

THE CITY COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

Wm. H. Marbury, President; M. P. Vincent, Clerk; William Radd, Messenger. First Ward.—Noble Lindsey, N. P. T. Burke. Second Ward.—Charles Goodrich, Wm. H. Marbury. Third Ward.—C. C. Carlin, George H. Hinken. Fourth Ward.—John T. Sweeney, E. S. Leadbeater.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL.

Hubert Snowden, President; J. T. Johnson, Clerk; John Craven, Messenger. First Ward.—Hubert Snowden, Edgar F. Thompson, Wm. S. Moore, Clarence N. Moore. Second Ward.—Louis Kraft, George W. Fisher, Fred. Knus, Jos. S. Beach. Third Ward.—John H. Strider, J. R. Caton, J. T. Harrison, Geo. A. Mush-

Hubert Snowden, Clerk of Board. First Ward: Robert Aitchison, S. A. Mankin, L. H. Thompson. Second Ward: William H. Marbury, Henry Strauss, J. R. Chapman. Third Ward: William F. Carne, John T. Harrison, Herbert Bryant. Fourth Ward: Francis L. Smith, John T. Sweeney, Wm. F. Vincent.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Chief Engineer, Edgar Warfield. Wardens: J. M. Hill, 1st ward; John Harlow, 2d ward; Louis Brill, Jr., 3d ward; George R. Hill, 4th ward.

POLICE.

James F. Webster, Captain; James Smith, Lieutenant. Privates: Geo. W. Jones, James L. Howson, James Smith, Gayton Arrington, George W. Crump, Keith Davis, Samuel Ticer, W. A. Ferguson, Benjamin F. Bettis, Joshua Sherwood, James McCuen, B. T. Young, James Griffin, Wm. E. Grady, W. C. Brenner.

THE COURTS.

Circuit Court (City)—Hon. James Keith, Judge; John S. Beach, Clerk; term commences 3d Monday in March and 4th Monday in September.

Circuit Court (County)—Hon. James Keith, Judge; H. H. Young, Clerk; term commences 4th Monday in May, and Wednesday after 1st Monday in November.

NOTARIES PUBLIC.

Albert Stuart, James R. Caton, Leonard Marbury, A. W. Armstrong, J. Johnston Green, Geo. A. Mushbach, Wm. E. Fendall, Morgan H. Beach, W. Frank Lambert, N. S. Greenaway, Harry R. Burke.

W. H. MARBURY

was born in Alexandria, Va., and was for some years engaged in mercantile business, when he was elected cashier of the branch of the Farmers Bank of Virginia, in Alexandria, and held that position up to the commencement of the war, at which time all State banks were closed. After the war he succeeded the late James H. Reid, dec'd, as Treasurer of the O. A. & M. R. R., which position he held through the change of said road until the same was purchased by the R. & D. R. R. and since then he has been the Assistant Treasurer of that R. R. system, which position he now occupies. Has been connected with the affairs of the city as a member of the Board of Aldermen for fifteen years, and has for four years been the presiding officer thereof.

HUBERT SNOWDEN

is president of the Common Council. He has served in that body continu-

Union and Duke streets is his foundry.

He makes all kinds of castings in iron and brass, and his business extends all over the United States. The government furnishes him with large contracts as do also the manufacturers of brick throughout the States.

MAYOR H. STRAUSS

was born in 1835.

His early boyhood was spent in Georgia, but for the past thirty years he has been a progressive and prosperous citizen of Alexandria.

He is a practical business man—clothing—and has been identified in all the interests of the city. A member of the Board of Aldermen sixteen years, and at one time president, he was a prime mover in the compromises of the city debt, which have been instrumental in bringing about the present healthy financial condition of the city.

The Mayor has been president of three building associations at differ-



MAYOR H. STRAUSS.

ent times. He has been a director in the Mt. Vernon Insurance Company, and also in the Northeast Alexandria Investment Company; also the First National Bank. He has been mayor of the city two years. He has just been re-elected for two more years, and has been prominent for years in politics.

He was chairman of the democratic delegation to the convention which nominated the Hon. Fitz Hugh Lee for Governor. As Mayor of the city he has given all his time and attention to its duties. So much so that at the last election he had no opponents to his re-election in either party. He was the choice of both.

MILLARD P. VINCENT.

The subject of the sketch is an Alexandrian, and was born October 11, 1856.

He attended the schools of the city; the Randolph Macon College, near Richmond, and took a business course at Bryant, Stratton & Saddler's Business College, at Baltimore.

In 1875 he returned from Baltimore and accepted a position with R. B. Lawson & Co., in the wholesale grocery business. After Mr. Lawson's son's retirement from business in 1878, he associated himself with Wise & Co., insurance agents, and has been with them ever since in the capacity of chief clerk.

He began his political career in 1884, when he was made registrar from the fourth ward, which he still retains.

In May, 1889, he was elected clerk of the Board of Aldermen.

He is also a member of the Board of Commissioners of Excise and of the "Bachelor Club." The club has its headquarters at 411 King street; also Junior Warden of the Alexandria and Washington Lodge of Masons, No. 22.

JOHN T. JOHNSON

is clerk of the common council, having been elected to that body in 1889.

He was born in Alexandria in 1860; is a graduate of St. John's Academy, and was bookkeeper for Tackett & Marshall for twelve years, resigning two months ago to accept a similar position with the Robert Porter Brewing Company.

He is popular and enterprising.

SAMUEL G. BRENT

was born June 28, 1855, at Hot Springs, this State.

He has been a resident of this city since his early boyhood, and was educated at St. John's Academy, and the Columbia Law School, graduating from the latter institution in 1877.

Since that time he has practiced law.

He was elected commonwealth's attorney in 1878, and served until 1882; was elected councilman from the first ward in May, 1885, and served until March, 1887. He was then elected corporation attorney, and has held that position ever since.

LEONARD MARBURY

is the commonwealth's attorney of the city.

He is a native of the town; was born in 1856, attended St. John's Academy in his early boyhood, and graduated in the Columbia University Law School in 1878.

Mr. Marbury has been chairman of the City Democratic Committee and chairman of the eighth district committee.

He is attorney for the Mercantile



SOME OF THE CITY OFFICERS.

No. 1. W. H. MARBURY, President of the Board of Aldermen.
No. 4. JOHN T. SWEENEY.
No. 6. C. N. MOORE.
No. 9. JOSEPH S. BEACH.
No. 11. JAMES MCGUEN.

No. 2. M. P. VINCENT.
No. 7. C. C. CARLIN.
No. 12. N. LINDSEY.

No. 3. R. M. LATHAM, Superintendent of City Gas Works.
No. 5. W. S. MOORE.
No. 8. GEORGE W. FISHER.
No. 10. LOUIS KRAFT.
No. 13. J. T. JOHNSON.

figure in our streets at that time. He identified himself with all our interests—helped man fire engines, engaged in our political disputes, and, as has often been told, had a fistfight encounter in our market-house and came out second best.

Alexandria, as might be expected, suffered her share from the fetters on commerce which were imposed by the mother country, and though she long and patiently bore up under the unjust and cruel exaction of Great Britain, when the conflict for freedom was at last precipitated, her sons helped to swell the ranks of the revolutionary patriots and their blood, too, flowed in the cause of freedom.

The revolutionary war, the trouble with France, and the second war for independence had its effect upon Alexandria's commerce, but the last conflict having ended she recuperated rapidly, and in a short time ships, barks, brigs, and schooners hailing from this port once more dotted the ocean. From that period until the breaking out of the civil war Alexandria grew and prospered. Locomotive works were established here, a cotton factory put in operation, railroads built, a canal constructed, large flouring mills erected and numerous other enterprises started and successfully conducted. The city's port was kept lively, and Alexandria was a well known mart, vessel which were built and owned here

The old streets of Alexandria excited much comment, but the modern streets of WHEAT & SUTER'S Addition have caused a sensation.

The absurdity of the effort to secure free coinage of silver dollars as being a return to the practice of our forefathers is clearly shown by mint statistics. From 1793 to 1835 less than 1,500,000 silver dollars were coined, and most of these were exported. Between 1835 and 1873 less than \$7,000,000 more were coined, making a grand total from 1793 to 1873 of a little more than 8,000,000 silver dollars. Since 1878 the coinage of standard dollars has exceeded 400,000,000, and immense quantities of silver bullion have been bought and stored away. Surely, in this simple history of the United States coinage, abundant reasons may be found for not fooling with a double standard, and especially with one which would drive gold out of the country.

WHEAT & SUTER'S advertisement directly interests you. Read it.

Much money has been spent in making WHEAT & SUTER'S Addition what it is, but not one hundredth of what will be expended in making it what it will be.

bach. Fourth Ward.—L. E. Uhler, T. J. Fannon, James McCuen, Paul R. Evans.

COMMISSIONERS OF THE SINKING FUND. Hon. Henry Strauss, Mayor; Wm. H. Marbury, President Board of Aldermen; Hubert Snowden, President of Common Council; E. F. Price, Auditor; J. D. H. Lunt, Treasurer.

OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION.

Commissioner of Revenue, George Duffey; Collector of Taxes N. D., P. F. Gorman; Collector of Taxes S. D., A. F. Cox; Superintendent of Police, William Dobie; Superintendent of Gas Works, R. M. Latham; Clerk of the Gas Works, R. Theodore Cook; Clerk of the Market, Lambert Lyles; Janitor of the Market, A. H. Brown; Measurer and Inspector of Lumber, Stephen Swain; Measurer and Inspector of Lumber, James L. Adams; Measurer and Inspector of Wood and Bark, Wesley Makeley; Weigher and Inspector of Hay, DeW. Aitchison; Physicians to the Poor, Drs. W. T. Gulick and W. R. Purvis; Keeper of Alms and Workhouse, Mary G. Cornwell; Keeper of the Town Clock, Charles F. Adam; Scavenger, P. Dillon; Steward of Offices, John Craven; Overseer Out-door Poor, W. C. Shock.

CITY SCHOOL BOARD.

Francis L. Smith, Chairman; K. Kemper, Superintendent of Schools;

Corporation Court.—Hon. J. K. M. Norton, Judge; J. S. Beach, Clerk; Leonard Marbury, Commonwealth's Attorney; Wm. H. Smith, City Sergeant; Theo. Ballenger, Deputy Sergeant; Braxton B. Smith, Deputy Sergeant; term commences 2d Monday in every month; quarterly terms, January, April, July, and October.

County Court.—Hon. D. M. Chichester, Judge; H. H. Young, Clerk; term commences 1st Monday in every month; quarterly terms February, May, August, and November.

UNITED STATES COURTS. Regular terms, first Monday in January and July. Circuit Court, U. S.—Hon. Robert W. Hughes, Judge; John S. Fowler, Clerk.

District Court, U. S.—Hon. Robert W. Hughes, Judge; John S. Fowler, Clerk.

John S. Fowler, U. S. Commissioner.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

FIRST WARD. A. J. Fair, F. L. Entwistle, L. H. Thompson.

SECOND WARD. Joseph S. Beach, D. W. Whitney, Alexander H. Brown.

THIRD WARD. Wm. H. May, Francis Lovejoy, M. Grimes.

FOURTH WARD. Oscar C. Whittlesey, C. O. Sipple.

ously since 1883. He was chairman of the finance committee of the city council for a number of years, and relinquished that position when he was chosen president in 1891. Mr. Snowden was born in Alexandria where he has resided all his life, and since boyhood has been connected with the GAZETTE.

W. S. MOORE

is a councilman, and owns the iron and brass works at 212 South Union street.

He was born in Alexandria, November 21, 1821.

He has been a member of the City Council since 1866.

This gentleman is a representative of the first ward, and has been offered the presidency several times but would not accept. He has been a member of all the committees at different times.

Having been in the foundry business since 1852, he is a factor of the city's advancement and enterprise since that time.

His machine works consist of a four story building, 35 x 170 feet. It is four stories high, and he employs an average of twenty-five men.

On the first floor are the turning lathes and all classes of machinery; second floor the same, and on the third and fourth floors patterns are stored.

At the northwest corner of South